

Edits to Current Rule:

**502.2 Offensive, Insulting or Abusive language:**

1. One (1) game suspension -- Offensive or insulting or abusive language and/or gestures not directed.
2. Three (3) game suspension -- Offensive or insulting or abusive language and/or gestures directed toward a player, ~~referee, assistant referee~~, administrator, spectator or game and /or tournament official. If the offensive, insulting, or abusive language is reported to be hate speech the penalty shall be increased by two (2) games.

~~3. Six (6) game suspension -- Adult directed to a youth referee.~~

3. Offensive, Insulting or Abusive language towards referees will follow USSF Referee Abuse Prevention (RAP) Policy:

- a. Two (2) game suspension – Level 1: Verbal Taunting (Insulting, Belittling, Insinuating or Taunting Behavior Undermining Referee Authority).
- b. Four (4) game suspension – Level 2: Harassment/Intimidation (Harassment, Intimidation, Retaliation, Abusive, or Threatening Non Physical Language).
- c. Six (6) game suspension – Level 3: Threats/Derogatory Language (Aggression, Attacking, Derogatory, Cyberbullying, Doxing or Threatening Physical / Violence Language).
- d. Ten (10) game suspension – Level 4: Offensive or Discriminatory Act (Discriminatory or derogatory words or actions on account of race, skin color, ethnicity, nationality, social origin, gender, disability, sexual orientation, language, or religion).
- e. Key penalty factors:
  1. Second time offenders receive double punishment.
  2. Third time offenders receive a lifetime ban.
  3. More than one offense at the same time is at least the punishment for the most serious offense.
  4. Offenses against minors are automatically subject to a “minor multiplier” resulting in triple punishment.

~~4. If the offensive, insulting, or abusive language is reported to be hate speech the penalty shall be increased by two (2) games.~~ – Moved to section 2.

Proposed updated version:

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